

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended)      ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~ as claimed in claim ~~13~~, wherein the nonmetallic layer ~~(3)~~ mainly comprises a material selected from the group of transparent plastic, silicon, oxides of silicon, nitrides of silicon and carbides of silicon.

3. (Currently Amended)      An optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~ as ~~claimed in claims 1 or 2 for recording by means of a focused radiation beam having a wavelength  $\lambda$  and entering through an entrance face of the medium during recording, said optical data storage medium comprising:~~

..... a substrate including a guide groove, having a depth  $g$ , on a side of the substrate opposite to the entrance face; and

..... a recording stack of layers on the substrate at the side of the guide groove, said recording stack including:

..... a write-once recording layer adjacent the substrate, said write-once recording layer being a material having a complex refractive index  $\tilde{n}_R = n_R - i \cdot k_R$  at the wavelength  $\lambda$ , and having a thickness  $d_{pg}$  in the groove portion and a thickness  $d_{pl}$  in the portion between grooves; and

15 | ..... a non-metallic layer adjacent the write-once recording  
layer, said non-metallic layer being a substantially transparent  
material.  
characterized in that the groove depth  $g$  is in the range  $(\lambda/655)*20$   
nm <  $g$  <  $(\lambda/655)*140$  nm with  $\lambda$  expressed in nm,  
20 | and wherein the wavelength  $\lambda$  is approximately 655 nm.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~  
as claimed in claim 3, wherein  $g < 125$  nm.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~  
as claimed in ~~claims 3 or 4~~ claim 3, wherein  $g > 50$  nm.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~  
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3 --- 5~~ claim 3, wherein the  
recording layer ~~(2)~~ has a thickness  $d_{RG}$  and  $145 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 245$   
nm and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises  $\text{SiO}_2$  and has a  
thickness  $d_T$  in the range  $5 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 120 \text{ nm}$ .

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~  
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3 --- 5~~ claim 3, wherein the  
recording layer has a thickness  $d_{RG}$  and  $132 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 220 \text{ nm}$   
and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises  $\text{SiC}$  and has a thickness  
5 |  $d_T$  in the range  $5 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 60 \text{ nm}$ .

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~  
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3-5~~ claim 3, wherein the  
recording layer has a thickness  $d_{RG}$  and  $154 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 264 \text{ nm}$ ,  
and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises amorphous Si and has a  
5 thickness  $d_T$  in the range  $1 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 20 \text{ nm}$ .

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The optical data storage medium ~~(20)~~  
as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 3, wherein ~~at~~  
~~least one further recording stack (2', 3')~~ is present adjacent said  
optical data storage medium further comprises:

5 a further substrate ~~(4)~~ adjacent said recording stack of  
layers, said further substrate including a guide groove with a  
depth  $g'$  in the same range as  $g$ , the guide groove being present at  
the side of the further substrate ~~(4)~~ opposite to the an entrance  
face ~~(8)~~ adjacent to said recording stack of layers; and

10 ~~the~~ a further recording stack (2', 3') including:  
~~a further write-write-once recording layer (2')~~ a further ~~write-write-once~~ recording layer ~~(2')~~ of a  
material having a complex refractive index  $\tilde{n}'_R = n'_R - i*k'_R$  at the  
wavelength  $\lambda$  and having a thickness  $d'_{RG}$  in the groove portion and  
a thickness  $d'_{RL}$  in the portion between grooves, said further  
15 write-once recording layer being present adjacent the substrate;  
and

~~a further non-metallic layer (3')~~ a further non-metallic layer ~~(3')~~ of a substantially  
transparent material, ~~being present adjacent the further write-once~~  
recording layer ~~(2')~~.

10. (Cancelled).